

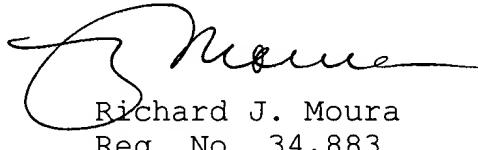
REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims of the foreign patent application (European Patent Application No. 99101948.0 filed January 31, 1999) on which priority is claimed.

In view of the forgoing amendment, the claims now pending in the application are respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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